WE CLAIM:

1. A video-on-demand system enabling a user to modify play parameters of a selected video signal, said system comprising:

    (a) a media server for transmitting the selected video signal, said media server generating a first series of searchable index frames during transmission of the selected video signal, said media server storing said first series thereon;

    (b) a client player for receiving and displaying the selected video signal, said client player generating and storing a second series of searchable index frames thereon, said client player accessing said first series or said second series and obtaining a required searchable index frame therefrom upon receipt of a request by the user to modify the play parameters, said required searchable index frame providing a new starting point for display of the selected video signal, said media server and said client player being operatively connected by a communication network.

2. The video-on-demand system according to claim 1, further comprising a video database operatively coupled to said media server, said video database comprising a plurality of videos selectable by the user.

3. The video-on-demand system according to claim 2, wherein said videos in the video database are in an encoded format.

4. The video-on-demand system according to claim 2, further comprising a feature database operatively coupled to said media server, said feature database comprising a plurality of extracted features, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features are associated with one of the videos in the video database.

5. The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of extracted features provide a means for said user to search and identify a video for subsequent display based on a desired criteria represented by one or more of the plurality of extracted features.

6.   The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features is either a word identifier or an image identifier.

7.   The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features is a movie clip representative of one of the videos in the video database.

8.   The video-on-demand system according to claim 4, further comprising a video production module for encoding each of said videos into an encoded format.

9.   The video-on-demand system according to claim 8, wherein said video production module further generates said extracted features.

10.   The video-on-demand system according to claim 1, further comprises a user account management module for providing a means for controlling user access.

11.   A method for enabling a user to modify play parameters of a selected video signal in a video-on-demand system, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   establishing a connection between a media server and a client player;

(b)   receiving by said media player, a request for the selected video signal from said client player;

(c)   transmitting by said media player, said selected video signal to the client player;

(d)   generating and storing a first series of searchable index frames by the media player while transmitting;

(e)   receiving and displaying said selected video signal by the client player;

(f)   generating and storing a second series of searchable index frames by the client player while receiving and displaying;

(g)   receiving by the client player, a request to modify play parameters of the selected video signal from the user;

(h)   searching said first series or second series for a required searchable index frame, said required searchable index frame providing a new starting point for displaying said selected video signal;

(i)   displaying said selected video signal from said new starting point;

(j) terminating said connection between a media server and a client player upon completion of display of the selected video signal.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein prior to step b performing the steps of:

(aa) searching a feature database by a user, said feature database comprising a plurality of extracted features, wherein one or more of the plurality of extracted features are associated with one of a plurality of videos in a video database;

(bb) selecting by the user a desired video from the video database based on one or more of the plurality of extracted features;

(cc) transmitting the request for the selected video signal from the client player.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein prior to step a) performing the step of authenticating the user.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein prior to step of authenticating the user, performing the steps of:

(a) encoding a plurality of videos for subsequent transmission;

(b) saving said encoded videos in the video database;

(c) identifying one or more extracted features for each of the plurality of videos;

(d) saving said extracted features in a searchable configuration in the features database.

15. The method according to claim 11, wherein the media server is connected to a plurality of client players.